

# special news feature

## AMS Member and UCLA Graduate Student Receives Bjerknes Award

Savithri Machiraju, a graduate student at the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA) and an AMS member, received the Jakob A. Bjerknes Award in Synoptic and Dynamic Meteorology. The award was presented 8 November 1984 at a dinner hosted by George L. Siscoe, Chairman of the Department of Atmospheric Sciences. One of the guests was Clarence Hall, Dean of the UCLA Physical Sciences Section, a division of the College of Letters and Science.

The Award is presented annually to the student who has made the most significant and original research contribution, either in his or her individual work, or as part of a collaborative effort.

Machiraju received a cash award of \$500.00, and a hand-engraved certificate. She was honored for her mature and efficient work as executive director of Project BASIN, work which demanded an understanding of the problems of observational networks for mesoscale dynamics, turbulence, and air pollution.

The Bjerknes award is made possible through donations from Hedvig Bjerknes, widow of Jakob A. Bjerknes. The late J. Bjerknes was the first chairman of the Meteorology Department at UCLA and was widely recognized as the father of frontal analysis in meteorology. Others who contribute to this fund are the University of Bergen in Norway and friends of the late Bjerknes.



(from left to right) Hedvig Bjerknes, Savithri Machiraju, and George L. Siscoe at the Bjerknes Award dinner.

## 25 years ago . . .

### Plans for Dissemination of Satellite Meteorological Data from Project Tiros\*

Television cloud picture data transmitted, orbit by orbit, from the satellite to the readout stations will be received and displayed on a TV screen for photographing and simultaneously recorded on a magnetic tape for the expected 3 months' life of the experiment. A 35-mm camera will photograph the pictures on the TV screen, producing a black and white negative of each television picture; on each frame will appear an orbit-time identification and other pertinent data in the form of a dot code. This film becomes the master negative from which copies are made for distribution and analysis.

There will be two cameras on the TIROS satellite—one with a small angle and one with a wide angle of view. The pictures from the small-angle camera will not be analyzed photogrammetrically. Each frame will be identified with time and orbit number but will show no auxiliary orientation data. However, approximately 500 of the wide-

angle-camera pictures will be selected for photogrammetric analysis by the Naval Photographic Interpretation Center. With the aid of this analysis, the NASA will improve its original estimate of the camera orientation for each usable picture. Using the best camera orientation information, the Weather Bureau will construct grids showing geographic coordinates on these pictures and also all useful remaining wide angle pictures (about 5,000). The results of this step will also accurately locate the center of the small-angle pictures since they are taken at the same times as the wide-angle pictures and both cameras have coincident optical axes. Another set of 35-mm film strips, negatives and positives, will be produced showing the cloud pictures and, superimposed thereon, grids showing geographic coordinates and appropriate labels. A copy will be sent to the U.S. Weather Bureau, National Weather Records Center (NWRC), Asheville, N.C. ●

\**Bull. Amer. Meteor. Soc.*, 41, 41.